

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for suppressing one or more features in an image of a page of content, comprising:
 - (a) acquiring an image of a page of content;
 - (b) ~~identifying analyzing the image to identify~~ one or more features in the ~~page~~ image of the ~~page of content~~ that are to be suppressed or not to be suppressed; and
 - (c) preparing a substitute ~~page~~ image that ~~only~~ includes ~~images~~ one or more portions of the ~~identified~~ analyzed image having those features that are not to be suppressed.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, in which acquiring an image of a page of content comprises scanning a page of content into an electronic image format.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, in which acquiring an image of a page of content comprises converting electronic text into an electronic image format.
4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, in which acquiring an image of a page of content comprises retrieving ~~a page~~ an image of a ~~page of content~~ that was previously stored in a memory.
5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, in which ~~identifying analyzing the image to identify~~ one or more features that are not to be suppressed includes determining location and size information for the features in the ~~page~~ image that meet a non-suppression criterion.
6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 5, in which the non-suppression criterion identifies text in the ~~page~~ image.
7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, in which the non-suppression criterion identifies text that matches one or more specified terms.
8. (Original) The method of Claim 5, in which the non-suppression criterion identifies a non-text object.
9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, in which the non-text object has text associated therewith and the non-suppression criterion identifies the non-text object by reference to the object's associated text.

10. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 5, in which preparing a substitute page image comprises generating a blank image and using the location and size information to copy to the blank image one or more images of portions of the analyzed image that include the non-suppressed features from the original page image to the blank image.

11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, in which copying images of the non-suppressed features one or more portions of the analyzed image comprises copying pixel information for the non-suppressed features from the original page analyzed image to the substitute page image at one or more locations corresponding to the locations of the non-suppressed features in the original page analyzed image.

12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 5, further comprising including background image information in the substitute page image that simulates background information in the original page analyzed image.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 12, in which background image information is included in the substitute page image by duplicating pixel information from the background of the original page analyzed image to the background of the substitute page image.

14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 13, in which background pixel information from one or more locations in the original page analyzed image is duplicated at corresponding locations in the substitute page image and interpolated through the remainder of the substitute page image to produce the background image information for the substitute page image.

15. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, in which preparing a substitute page image comprises removing image information from the original page analyzed image that fails to correspond to the features that are not to be suppressed.

16. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, in which preparing a substitute page image comprises removing image information from the original page analyzed image that corresponds to the features that are to be suppressed.

17. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, in which identifying analyzing the image to identify one or more features that are to be suppressed includes determining location

and size information for the features in the page analyzed image that meet a suppression criterion.

18. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 17, in which the suppression criterion identifies text in the page analyzed image.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, in which the suppression criterion identifies text that does not match one or more specified terms.

20. (Original) The method of Claim 17, in which the suppression criterion identifies a non-text object.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 20, in which the non-text object has text associated therewith and the suppression criterion identifies the non-text object by reference to the object's associated text.

22. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising including background image information in the substitute page image by duplicating pixel information from the background of the ~~original~~ page analyzed image to the background of the substitute page image.

23. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising including background image information in the substitute page image by differentiating foreground pixel information from background pixel information, and removing foreground pixel information from the substitute page image that corresponds to the features to be suppressed.

24. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising storing the substitute image in a page image database for later retrieval.

25. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 24, in which a stored substitute image, when retrieved, ~~constitutes an~~ original page image that is subject to further feature suppression by (1) identifying analyzing the image to identify one or more features in the ~~retrieved~~ page image that are to be suppressed or not to be suppressed, and (2) preparing a substitute page image that ~~only~~ include images includes one or more portions of the identified analyzed image having those features that are not to be suppressed.

26. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising referring to an access rule that limits ~~an amount of the~~ content that can be included in the substitute page image, and ~~determining information for analyzing the image of the page of content to identify the one or more~~ features in the ~~page analyzed~~ image that can ~~remain be included~~ in the ~~substitute~~ page image in accordance with the access rule.

27. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, in which ~~determining information for analyzing the image to identify the one or more~~ features that can ~~remain be included~~ in the ~~substitute~~ page image includes determining location and size information of the features.

28. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 27, in which preparing a substitute page image comprises generating a blank image and using the location and size information to copy pixel information for the features that can ~~remain be included~~ into the substitute page image at the same locations as in the ~~original page analyzed~~ image.

29. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, in which the access rule defines an aggregate amount of content that can be included in the substitute page image.

30. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, in which the access ~~rules define rule defines~~ a percentage of content that can be included in the substitute page image.

31. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, in which the access rule defines ~~the an~~ amount of content ~~that can be included~~ based on content-specific information.

32. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, in which the access rule defines ~~the an~~ amount of content ~~that can be included~~ based on content ownership.

33. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, further comprising referring to different access rules based on [[the]] a location of a user.

34. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 26, further comprising referring to different access rules based on [[the]] a time at which the substitute page image is to be provided to a user.

35. (Currently amended) A computer system that provides an image of a page of content to a user as a result of a search, comprising a search server in communication with a database server, in which the database server is configured with a library of content that includes

(1) a ~~page~~ an image database containing images of pages of content and (2) a text searchable database containing text and information identifying the ~~page~~ images in the ~~page~~ image database that contain the text, the search server being configured with computer-implemented instructions that enable the search server to retrieve a ~~page~~ an image of a page of content from the ~~page~~ image database based on a user search, analyze the image to identify one or more features in the ~~page~~ image that are to be suppressed or not to be suppressed, prepare a substitute ~~page~~ image that only includes images one or more portions of the identified analyzed image having those features that are not to be suppressed, and provide the substitute ~~page~~ image to the user.

36. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 35, further comprising an access rights database in the database server with an access rules rule that limit limits the amount of content in the substitute ~~page~~ image provided to the user.

37. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 35, in which the search server is further configured to determines determine location and size information for features in the ~~page~~ analyzed image that are to be suppressed or not to be suppressed.

38. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 37, in which the search server prepares the substitute ~~page~~ image by generating a blank image and using the location and size information to copy to the blank image one or more images of portions of the analyzed image that include the non-suppressed features ~~from the original page image to the blank image~~.

39. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 38, in which the search server copies images of the non suppressed features one or more portions of the analyzed image by copying pixel information for the non-suppressed features from the ~~original page~~ analyzed image to the substitute ~~page~~ image at one or more locations corresponding to the locations of the non-suppressed features in the ~~original page~~ analyzed image.

40. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 35, in which the search server prepares a substitute ~~page~~ image by removing image information from the ~~original page~~ analyzed image that fails to correspond to the features that are not to be suppressed.

41. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 35, in which the search server prepares a substitute page image by removing image information from the original page analyzed image that corresponds to the features that are to be suppressed.

42. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 35, in which the search server is further configured to include background image information in the substitute page image that simulates background information in the original page analyzed image.

43. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 35, in which the search server is further configured to include background image information in the substitute page image by differentiating foreground pixel information from background pixel information, and removing foreground pixel information from the substitute page image that corresponds to the features to be suppressed.

44. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 35, in which the search server is further configured to store the substitute page image in the page image database for later retrieval.

45. (Currently amended) The computer system of Claim 44, in which the search server is further configured to act on a retrieved substitute image as if it is an original page image of a page of content subject to further feature suppression.

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